

Resolution 2010-04
Recommendations Regarding Oil Spill Prevention and Response

WHEREAS, the Action Agenda recognizes the Partnership's responsibility to be ever-vigilant to prevent and respond to oil spills; and

WHEREAS, a major or catastrophic oil spill would fundamentally jeopardize the goal of cleaning up, restoring and protecting Puget Sound by the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has called for the Partnership to make recommendations to improve the State's oil spill programs; and

WHEREAS, Item C.1.2 in the Action Agenda calls for the Partnership to consider and integrate expert recommendations for oil spill prevention, preparedness and response; and

WHEREAS, the Cross-Partnership Oil Spill Work Group has built upon the work of previous task forces and advisory councils and adopted four recommendations by the consensus of attending members.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Leadership Council of the Puget Sound Partnership supports the recommendations of the Cross-Partnership Oil Spill Work Group and encourages the Governor and Legislature to take the necessary actions to implement the following recommendations:

- The Washington State Legislature provide adequate and stable funding to restore the Spills Programs at the Departments of Ecology and Fish and Wildlife to their 2007-2009 levels and cover these programs' projected shortfalls for 2011-2013 and future biennia.
- Direct the Department of Ecology and other entities responsible for developing and implementing oil spill contingency plans to enhance programs for oil spill response/readiness drills (i.e., practice exercises) and re-establish the presence of key state, local, tribal, and federal participants at drills.
- Direct the Department of Ecology's Spills Program to develop new requirements, which result in an organized and effective "vessels of opportunity program."

- The State ensure that the capacity of the spills community to appropriately respond to worst-case spills is fully realized, utilizing best available and emerging technology and appropriate training and procedures, regardless of location, time-of-day, or operating environment to safely, promptly, and properly respond to the maximum extent practicable.

Resolution Moved By: Bill Wilkerson

Resolution Seconded By: Diana Gale

Approved/Denied/Deferred (underline one)

DATE: November 19, 2010